

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MEXICO 06607 212222Z  
ACTION JUSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SNM-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 L-03 /029 W  
-----003224 212229Z /14  
O 212124Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9702

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 06607

DEPARTMENT PASS JUSTICE FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

EO: 11652 XGDS-1  
TAGS: SNAR, MX  
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS - LETTER FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL FLORES  
TO ATTORNEY GENERAL BELL

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL FLORES A  
LETTER DATED APRIL 20 ADDRESSED TO ATTORNEY GENERAL BELL.  
LETTER BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSMITTAL. FREE  
TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

DEAR MR. ATTORNEY GENERAL:

DURING THE RECENT VISIT TO MEXICO OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THEY EXPLAINED TO US THE  
EXISTENCE, NATURE AND CONSEQUENCES OF A LAWSUIT FILED  
BY NORML. (I NOTED THAT THE GROUP OF OFFICIALS DID NOT  
INCLUDE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.)  
HAVING ANALYZED THE BASES OF THE COMPLAINT, WE BELIEVE  
THAT, FROM A LEGAL POINT OF VIEW, IT CANNOT BE RESOLVED  
IN FAVOR OF NORML SINCE THIS WOULD IMPLY RECOGNITION OF  
AN ILLICIT ACT, THE USE OF MARIJUANA, A DRUG WHOSE  
PRODUCTION, TRAFFIC, POSSESSION AND USE IS PROHIBITED  
BY THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES. INDEPENDENT OF THAT  
FACT, BASED ON SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS THERE ARE NO  
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IMPORTANT RESIDUAL EFFECTS OF PARAQUAT WHICH CAUSE  
DAMAGE EITHER TO HEALTH OR TO THE MEXICAN ECOLOGY, THE  
LATTER IN ANY CASE BEING A MEXICAN PROBLEM.

WE HAVE PROVIDED THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN MEXICO ALL OF  
THE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION IT HAS REQUESTED. HOW-  
EVER, SINCE NO REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF

JUSTICE CAME TO MEXICO, I BELIEVE THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. I DO NOT KNOW IF YOU HAVE ALSO RECEIVED A COPY. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE OR IF YOU WANT ME TO SEND YOU COPIES, INCLUDING THE TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION ON WHICH WE BASED OUR DECISION TO EMPLOY THE HERBICIDES THAT WE ARE USING. THIS INFORMATION COULD BE THE BASIS FOR YOUR DEFENSE IN COURT IF YOU WISH.

I DO NOT KNOW AMERICAN PROCEDURE, BUT WHILE WE HAVE PROVIDED ALL THESE DOCUMENTS TO THE EMBASSY FOR THE GROUP FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, I FEEL YOU SHOULD KNOW AND BE AWARE OF THIS SITUATION DIRECTLY FROM US AND, IN CASE YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED COPIES OF THE INFORMATION, WE WILL SEND THEM DIRECTLY IF YOU WISH.

I TAKE THIS OCCASION TO REPEAT THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION AND PERSONAL ESTEEM.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC. (SIGNED) LIC. OSCAR FLORES.

2. COMMENT: ABOVE LETTER IS MOST UNUSUAL AND ALMOST CERTAINLY REFLECTS FLORES/ CONCERN THAT USG VIGOROUSLY DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST NORML LAWSUIT. WE KNOW FROM PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH FLORES THAT HE HAS PERSONALLY CONFIDENTIAL

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READ AND ANALYZED THE NORML COMPLAINT, AND HAS GONE SO FAR AS TO OFFER TO SEND GOM EXPERT WITNESSES TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF USG. AS NOTED IN MEXICO 5490, THIS IS AN UNPRECEDENTED OFFER. LUCEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LITIGATION, DRUG CONTROL, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS, HERBICIDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2893221  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NARCOTICS - LETTER FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL FLORES TO ATTORNEY GENERAL BELL  
**TAGS:** SNAR, PDIP, MX, US, NORML, (FLORES SANCHES, OSCAR), (BELL, GRIFFIN J)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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